Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Message Text

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PAGE 01 OTTAWA 03788 212227Z

60
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-02

RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-02 DOTE-00 EB-07 COME-00 L-02

AID-05 NSC-05 CIEP-02 TRSE-00 SS-15 STR-04 OMB-01

CEA-01 H-02 /085 W
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R 212155Z NOV 74
FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5024

UNCLAS OTTAWA 3788

POUCHED TO MONTREAL AND TORONTO FOR INFO

EO 11652 NA
TAGS EIND ETRD CA US
SUBJ U.S.-CANADA AUTOMOTIVE AGREEMENT

1. CANADIAN AUTOMOTIVE PARTS MANUFACTURERS' ASSOCIATION OFFICIALS MET WITH INDUSTRY, TRADE AND COMMERCE MINISTER GILLESPIE NOVEMBER 18 AND, ACCORDING TO ASSOCIATION PRESS RELEASE, EMPHASIZED THEIR CONCERN THAT ORIGINAL BASIS FOR 1965 AUTOMOTIVE AGREEMENT HAS BECOME OBSOLETE.

2. ACCORDING TO ASSOCIATION, DISCUSSIONS WITH MINISTER CENTERED ON POINTS RAISED IN NOVEMBER 14 LETTER FROM ASSOCIATION TO GILLESPIE, TO WIT:
(A) ESTABLISHMENT OF PERMANENT HIGH-LEVEL COMMITTEE COMPOSED OF US-CANADIAN GOVERNMENT AND INDUSTRY OFFICIALS TO REVIEW AUTO PACT AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS WITHIN TWELVE MONTHS;
(B) WITHDRAWAL OF PACT BENEFITS CANADA HAD EXTENDED TO THIRD COUNTRIES IN EVENT THEY ARE NOT PREPARED TO GIVE CANADIAN PARTS MANUFACTURERS FAIR ACCESS TO THEIR MARKETS;
(C) ELIMINATION OF AUTOMOTIVE PARTS FROM BENEFITS
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PAGE 02 OTTAWA 03788 212227Z

OF CANADIAN GENERAL PREFERENTIAL TARIFF.

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

3. ASSOCIATION STATED IT WISHED TO PRESS ITS VIEWS AT THIS TIME IN PARTICULAR IN VIEW OF PM TRUDEAU'S STATEMENT IN PARIS THAT AUTOMOTIVE INDUSTRY IS ONE OF MAIN CAUSES OF FRICTION BETWEEN CANADA AND U.S. AND THAT IT POSSIBLE THIS SUBJECT WILL BE RAISED IN DECEMBER 4 FORD-TRUDEAU MEETING. ASSOCIATION STATED THAT "WE ARE AWARE THAT THE GOVERNMENT HAS BEEN UNDER SOME PRESSURE FROM THE AMERICAN GOVERNMENT TO ELIMINATE THE TARIFFS WHICH REMAIN ON NEW CARS AND THE PROHIBITION ON THE IMPORTATION OF USED CARS AS PART OF THE NEGOTIATIONS ON THE AUTO PACT". ASSOCIATION ALSO STATED THAT "OUR OPPOSITION TO FREE TRADE IN AFTER-MARKET PARTS REMAINS FIRM".

4. ASSOCIATION STATED THAT CANADIAN AUTO TRADE DEFICIT IN FIRST 9 MONTHS OF 1974 HAS TOPPED $1 BILLION AND COULD REACH $1.6 BILLION BY YEAR END; FURTHERMORE, IN PAST 10 YEARS BALANCE IN TRADE IN AUTOS AND PARTS HAS BEEN MORE THAN $4 BILLION IN U.S. FAVOR.

5. COPIES OF ASSOCIATION PRESS RELEASE AND LETTER BEING SUBMITTED BY AIRGRAM.
JOHNSON

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Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
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Disposition Event:
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Disposition Reason:
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